



Scoil Aireagail

September Newsletter

2016



Welcome



Welcome back to all our students after the summer holidays. Particular welcome to our new 1st Year students, who had their first day in Scoil Aireagail on Friday 26th August. During this induction day, 1st Years were provided with homework diaries and other materials, and were given a tour of the school. They also got to meet many of their teachers, who introduced themselves and briefly explained what was involved in all the subjects. A total of fifty two students enrolled into 1st Year this year. This upward trend reflects well on our school which continually strives to provide an excellent education and learning experience for young people. Scoil Aireagail has high expectations for all its students, where one of our key objectives is that all students achieve their full potential. We wish all our students a successful, enjoyable and productive new school year.

Welcome - New Teachers

Welcome also to Ms. Dudley - our new History teacher, and to Mr. Guilfoyle - our new Engineering teacher.



Exam Success

Congratulations - L. Cert. Class of 2016

Scoil Aireagail is extremely proud of the excellent results our students achieved in the 2016 Leaving Certificate examinations. Students did exceptionally well, where most managed to secure the third level course or apprenticeship of their choice. Once again, Scoil Aireagail has proven itself to be an excellent centre of learning where each student is actively encouraged to work to the very best of their ability. Our school has a tradition of very strong performances in the Leaving Certificate - full credit to our students, and their families and teachers for all their support and guidance.

We wish the class of 2016 every success in the future, and hope they each get to achieve their goals in life. Teachers in Scoil Aireagail are always interested in our past students, so we would encourage the class of 2016 to let us know over the coming months how they are getting on in their chosen career path.

Evening Study



Supervised evening study operates from 4pm to 6pm daily. This facility offers a great opportunity for students to study each evening in a calm and quiet setting. It is open to all students, but 3rd, 5th and 6th Years should particularly make use of it to help them prepare for examinations. Enquiries to Mr. O' Brien.

"The only way to do great work is to love what you do. If you haven't found it yet, keep looking. Don't settle". Steve Jobs



Tom Hunt Memorial Fun Run

The Tom Hunt Memorial Fun Run was held on 28th August last, and was an outstanding success. It was hugely supported by so many of our past students and by the community at large. The impressive turnout was a fitting tribute to Tom's outstanding contribution to the community. Many thanks to Aidan Cotterill and his organizing committee on a job well done, and to so many of Tom's family and friends for supporting the event on a glorious Sunday afternoon. Thanks also to Scoil Aireagail staff members who helped and participated on the day. The signed Michael Fennelly jersey, which was auctioned as part of the fund raising activities, is being framed and will be proudly displayed in the school. Considerable funds were raised for both the scholarship fund and for the Scoil Aireagail development fund.



Above: Over 300 runners ready for the off!!



Above: Tom Hunt's son, Tom jnr., proudly supporting.

Extra-Curricular Activities

All students are encouraged to participate in some of the many extra-curricular activities outside the classroom. Lunchtime activities include hurling, camogie, computer club, gaelic football, soccer, basketball, badminton, girls two-mile challenge and chess. Thanks to all the teachers involved who give up so much of their free time to help out and organise.



Students are also encouraged to participate in, and contribute to other events which will take place during the school year such as competitions, fund-raising events for charity etc.

'Certificate of Merit' Awards

Students in 1st and 2nd Year will be awarded a new 'Certificate of Merit' award from September. Each fortnight four students from 1st Year and two students from 2nd Year will be presented with the certificate. Teachers will nominate students who most deserve this award, which will be presented by the class teacher during morning registration. The criteria for this award is based on general effort during class, quality of homework, behaviour/manner, diligence and engagement with the extra-curricular. It is in recognition of the values we foster and uphold in our school. All 1st and 2nd Year students should do their best to be nominated and, most importantly, work to the very best of your ability throughout this school year.



Junior Cycle Reform

Staff in Scoil Aireagail are involved in on-going training for the new Junior Cycle, in line with the Junior Cycle reform which is being rolled out nationally. Staff will have three days training during this school year; the first of which will be Monday November 14th next. The dates of the other two training days have yet to be decided. For further information on all aspects of the new Junior Cycle, you can log on to juniorcycle.ie



An tSraith Shóisearach do Mhúinteoirí
JuniorCYCLE
for teachers

Scoil Aireagail Code of Behaviour

Could Parents/Guardians please read, sign and return the 'Code of Behaviour' forms which were distributed to all students at the beginning of the school year. The 'Code of Behaviour' document serves as a reminder to students of the high standard and expectations we hold for our students in terms of behaviour, work ethic and respect. It outlines the important rules relating to daily school life which are designed to promote a safe, orderly and respectful school environment. As with all school initiatives parental co-operation is so important in achieving a successful outcome. Your continued support for the 'Code of Behaviour' is much appreciated.

New Computers

Kilkenny/Carlow Education & Training Board has sanctioned funding for over thirty new computers for one of our computer rooms. The computers are already installed and in use. All students will now have access to state-of-the-art I.C.T. facilities. Sincere thanks to the E.T.B. for making such funding available, which will undoubtedly serve to benefit our students learning experience both in I.C.T. and in so many subject areas.



Open Night 2016

Scoil Aireagail will be hosting its annual Open Night for incoming 1st Years on **Tuesday 4th October**. This is a very important event in the school calendar. It is an opportunity for primary school students, together with their parents/guardians, to visit our school. The itinerary for the night is as follows:

7:00pm sharp:

- Principal's Address: At 7:00pm Mr. O' Brien will address parents, outlining the key features of Scoil Aireagail
- Student Activities: From 7:00 to 7:30pm, as Mr. O' Brien is addressing parents, P.E. activities are organised for primary school students in the school hall
- Classroom Activities: From 7:30pm teachers will bring groups of students into various classrooms. Students will carry out short exercises/activities in each classroom.
- Parents can browse through school where short lessons will be given to students in many of the subjects available

Students from 5th and 6th classes are very welcome to come along with their parents. Students will get a chance to meet teachers in the classrooms, and get to sample the subjects with short lessons in Music, French, Technical Graphics, Science, Art, Woodwork, Metalwork, Home Economics and Computers. Please arrive for **7:00pm sharp** so as to give all students a chance to visit classrooms, and for parents to attend Mr. O' Brien's address. We look forward to seeing you all on the night.

All Ireland Success

Congratulations to the Kilkenny Camogie team who beat Cork in the All-Ireland Intermediate Camogie final in Croke Park on Sunday 11th September last. Two of the players, Keeva Fennelly and Julianne Malone, are past students of Scoil Aireagail.

First Year Mentoring Programme

On Friday 9th September 6th Year students participated in the First Year Mentoring Programme. This involves our senior students organizing and running a series of activities for 1st Years in the school hall. The idea is to facilitate our youngest students with the opportunity to get to know each other, through interesting and enjoyable exercises. It is important for our students to form strong bonds and friendships which will help them through the challenges of secondary school life. It also introduces them to the 6th Year students, who we would hope can act as mentors during their final year in Scoil Aireagail. Well done to our 6th Years for their time and effort in organizing the event. They showed great leadership and maturity in guiding our younger students through the various exercises. Thanks to all 1st Years for engaging so well with the programme. Thanks also to Ms. O' Callaghan who co-ordinated the entire event.



Kilkenny / Carlow Education & Training Board 'Student of the Year' Awards

On Friday 9th September last Kilkenny/Carlow Education & Training Board hosted the annual 'Student of the Year' Awards in the Kilkenny Ormonde Hotel. Each school within the ETB selects one student who has shown outstanding commitment and success in terms of academic performance and engagement with the extra-curricular. Aisling Laherty is the very deserving recipient of the 'Student of the Year' title from Scoil Aireagail. She is the embodiment of our school's Mission Statement, where she has always striven to work hard and reach her potential. Aisling achieved a superb Leaving Certificate in 2016; fully deserved after working so well over the past few years. She and her family are entitled to be very proud of her achievements to date. Aisling is currently studying Commerce in UCD. We wish her every success in the future, and have no doubt that she will go on to achieve all her goals.



Above: Eileen Curtis (ETB Education Officer), Liam O' Brien (Principal), Aisling Laherty (Scoil Aireagail Student of the Year), Cynthia Deane (ETB Chief Executive), Shane Fallon (Deputy Principal)



Above: 'Student of the Year' recipients from all schools in Kilkenny/Carlow ETB with Eileen Curtis (ETB Adult Education Officer), Cllr. Mary Hilda Cavanagh (ETB Chairperson) and Cynthia Deane (ETB Chief Executive)

Junior Cycle Reform

Staff in Scoil Aireagail are involved in on-going training for the new Junior Cycle, in line with the Junior Cycle reform which is being rolled out nationally. Staff will have three days training during this school year; the first of which will be Monday October 14th next. The dates of the other two training days have yet to be decided. For further information on all aspects of the new Junior Cycle, you can log on to juniorcycle.ie



An tSraith Shóisearach do Mhúinteoirí
JuniorCYCLE
for teachers

Scoil Aireagail Code of Behaviour

Could Parents/Guardians please read, sign and return the 'Code of Behaviour' forms which were distributed to all students at the beginning of the school year. The 'Code of Behaviour' document serves as a reminder to students of the high standard and expectations we hold for our students in terms of behaviour, work ethic and respect. It outlines the important rules relating to daily school life which are designed to promote a safe, orderly and respectful school environment. As with all school initiatives parental co-operation is so important in achieving a successful outcome. Your continued support for the 'Code of Behaviour' is much appreciated.

New Computers

Kilkenny/Carlow Education & Training Board has sanctioned funding for over thirty new computers for one of our computer rooms. The computers are already installed and in use. All students will now have access to state-of-the-art I.C.T. facilities. Sincere thanks to the E.T.B. for making such funding available, which will undoubtedly serve to benefit our students learning experience both in I.C.T. and in so many subject areas.



Open Night 2016

Scoil Aireagail will be hosting its annual Open Night for incoming 1st Years on **Tuesday 4th October**. This is a very important event in the school calendar. It is an opportunity for primary school students, together with their parents/guardians, to visit our school. The itinerary for the night is as follows:

7:00pm sharp:

- **Principal's Address:** At 7:00pm Mr. O' Brien will address parents, outlining the key features of Scoil Aireagail
- **Student Activities:** From 7:00 to 7:30pm, as Mr. O' Brien is addressing parents, P.E. activities are organised for primary school students in the school hall
- **Classroom Activities:** From 7:30pm teachers will bring groups of students into various classrooms. Students will carry out short exercises/activities in each classroom.
- Parents can browse through school where short lessons will be given to students in many of the subjects available

Students from 5th and 6th classes are very welcome to come along with their parents. Students will get a chance to meet teachers in the classrooms, and get to sample the subjects with short lessons in Music, French, Technical Graphics, Science, Art, Woodwork, Metalwork, Home Economics and Computers. Please arrive for **7:00pm sharp** so as to give all students a chance to visit classrooms, and for parents to attend Mr. O' Brien's address. We look forward to seeing you all on the night.

All Ireland Camogie Success

Congratulations to the Kilkenny Camogie team who beat Cork in the All-Ireland Intermediate Camogie final in Croke Park on Sunday 11th September last. Two of the players, Keeva Fennelly and Julianne Malone, are past students of Scoil Aireagail. Another player, Ciara Holden, is a sister of current 3rd Year students Michael and Declan Holden. Well done to all.

